

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10
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P R 171010Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7881
USICA WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 3626

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SOPN UNESCO XB XF
SUBJ: PROPOSED ASIAN NEWS NETWORK

REF: STATE 94648

1. WE HAVE RESERVATIONS AS TO THE DESIRABILITY OF TAKING
LOW KEY SOUNDINGS ON THE POSSIBILITY OF THE NEWS NETWORK
PLANNING GROUP'S WELCOMING THE SERVICES OF A U.S. CONSULTANT
WITH NEWS AGENCY MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE.

2. PAO HOSTED DINNER LAST WEEK AT WHICH LAOURI HELD FORTH
AT LENGTH ON THE QUESTION OF EXPANDING THIRD WORLD NEWS
AGENCIES. ATTENDING WAS ICA'S TOM PINCH, FRESH FROM THE
CAIRO DIALOGUE ON THE SAME SUBJECT. LAOURI'S POINT WAS THAT
WESTERN NEWS AGENCIES WERE OVERLY FEARFUL OF EXPANDED
DEVELOPING WORLD EFFORTS IN NEWS DISSEMINATION. THIRD WORLD
DESIRE IS TO BE QUOTE COMPLEMENTARY TO UNQUOTE RATHER THAN
A REPLACEMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL NEWS AGENCIES. HE ADDED,
HOWEVER, THAT THERE IS TOO MUCH OF TASS IN THE DEVELOPING
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WORLD. HE STRESSED THAT AT SENIOR LEVELS THE TALENT IS IN
PLACE TO MANAGE RESPONSIBLY THIRD WORLD NEWS AGENCIES.
COMMENT: THE VALIDITY OF LAOURI'S THESIS IS CERTAINLY
CHALLENGABLE ALTHOUGH THE ATTITUDE IT REFLECTS SUGGESTS THAT
ANY PROFFERED ASSISTANCE THROUGH A USG REP IN THE FORM OF
A WESTERN WIRE SERVICE CONSULTANT WOULD BE COOLY IF NOT
NEGATIVELY RECEIVED. DEPARTMENT AND ICA MAY WISH TO DISCUSS

PROJECTED COURSES OF ACTION WITH PINCH (NEA) WHO APPEARS
ESPECIALLY WELL INFORMED ON THIS GENERAL SUBJECT.
SULLIVAN

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NNN

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